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<b>REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b>  Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).	Application Number	09/255,777
	Filing Date	February 23, 1999
	First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI
	Group Art Unit	2812
	Examiner Name	Richard A. Booth
	Attorney Docket Number	740756-1936

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

iii. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☒ Supplement to Prior Information Disclosure Statement

iv. ☐ Submission of Formal Drawings

v. ☐ Petition For Withdraw From Issue

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(I) required)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. **19-2380 (740756-1936)**

i. ☒ RCE fee of **\$790.00** required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

iii. ☐ Other: Petition for Withdrawal From Issue --

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17).

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED</b>			
Name (Print/Type)	Jeffrey L. Costantia	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	35,483
Signature		Date	December 22, 2004

<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION</b> [37 CFR 1.8(a)]	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service by facsimile transmission to the USPTO at (703) 872-9306, on December 15, 2004.	
Signature:	
Name:	

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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